Financial Assistance for Development of Waterways Navigation

2616. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought financial assistance to develop waterways for navigation, shore-to-shore ferry services for transportation in rural areas;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government porpose to undertake construction of jetties and terminals and other similar structures;

(c) the amount of financial assistance sought therefore; and

(d) the action, if any, taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU.THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Proposals were received from the Government of Karnataka for financial assistance of 50% by way of loan under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of their six waterways system which included dredging, berthing jetties and wharf, break waters, procurement of dredgers etc.. However, these proposals were only preliminary estimates of the projects and also these were not prepared based on the guidelines for Centrally Sponsored Schemes circulated by the Government. Therefore, the Government of Karnataka has been requested to prepare the proposals as per guidelines.

Survey of Sea Ferry Terminals

2617. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sea ferry is increasingly becoming popular among the tourists in the Country;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any survey of the sea ferry terminals in the Country having immense tourism potential;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to conduct such a survey and if so, the time schedule thereof?